

DATE: September 25, 2007

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 345** - MCF Communications bg, Inc. and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located off Exeter Drive in Sterling, Connecticut.

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#### I. Introduction

The application is from MCF Communications bg, Inc. and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment in the Town of Sterling, Connecticut.

The applicants propose to erect a 140-foot steel monopole telecommunications tower on an 10.83 acre parcel off of Exeter Drive in Sterling Industrial Park. The tower would be built within a 70-foot by 70-foot enclosed compound.

#### II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed prime and alternate site, costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. Council staff believes additional information can be obtained through pre-hearing interrogatories. This project would not require an outside consultant.

#### III. Administrative Review

The applicant has stated that all service and filing requirements pursuant to General Statutes § 16-501 (b) have been fulfilled. The applicant stated that notice to the general public was published in the *Norwich Bulletin* on August 21 and 22, 2007.

#### IV. Procedural

The Council must schedule a hearing for the proceeding between 30 and 150 days after receipt of an application. The Council must also appoint a custodian of the docket and designate a place for the deposition of the transcript. Staff recommends designating Carriann Mulcahy as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of Sterling on Thursday, December 6, 2007, and depositing the transcript in the Sterling Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	08/24/07
Completeness review	09/25/07
Pre-hearing Questions	
• Set-One Filed	10/10/07
• Set-One responses due	10/31/07
• Set-Two Filed	11/07/07
• Set-Two responses due	11/28/07
Pre-hearing conference (10:00 a.m.)	11/06/07
Pre-filed testimony due	11/29/07
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	11/29/07
Field review ( 2:00p.m.)	12/06/07
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	12/06/07
Close of Record	01/07/08
Draft Findings of Fact	01/21/08
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	02/11/08
Deadline for Decision	02/20/08
180-day extension date	08/18/08

Michael Perrone  
Siting Analyst